

## **FISCAL NOTE SJR 800**

May 1, 2006

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Expresses the intent of the General Assembly to: (1) enact legislation to include the fundamental elements to provide for and sustain the infrastructure of the e4TN Tennessee Comprehensive K-12 e-Learning initiative; (2) support with appropriate resources to provide elementary and secondary students' access to highly qualified teachers and challenging state academic content delivered with e-learning technologies; and (3) provide funding to implement an e4TN program on a statewide basis for the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Other Fiscal Impact - If the intent of the resolution is implemented and new funding is provided to implement the e4TN program on a statewide basis in FY2007-08, state expenditures will increase. The amount of such appropriation cannot be determined but can reasonably be estimated to exceed \$100,000. If the intent of this resolution is not implemented, then the fiscal impact is considered minimal.**

Assumption:

- Funding for e-learning would be a new appropriation and would not come exclusively from existing funds or grants.

*For information purposes:* In December 2005, the Department of Education awarded \$3,400,000 from a federal No Child Left Behind grant among eight school districts for online learning capability under the e4TN program. The program offers elementary and secondary students access to challenging and engaging academic content through an online curriculum aligned to state and national standards. One year funding was awarded to Hamilton County (\$2.7 million) which is serving as the research, development, and implementation site of the program. Seven additional districts (\$100,000 each) are beta test sites.

According to the department, these federal funds are not expected to be available to continue to fund this program in the future especially on a statewide basis. There are 136 school districts in Tennessee. It is assumed that future funding would come from state or local sources.

**CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "White".

James W. White, Executive Director